

RECREATION

5051

(May 1988)

Under PRC §4656, reasonable use of state forests for hunting, fishing, recreation, and camping will be permitted, except as otherwise provided by law.

Other provisions of law include trespass, fish and game laws, fire laws, closures of state forests in accordance with PRC §4332 ([see Section 5025](#)), and regulations for recreational use of state forests, 14 CCR §1400, et seq. ([see Section 5026](#)). The department official responsible for management of a state forest must look to the primary purposes of state forests to establish the meaning of reasonable use. This is especially true as recreational use has more bearing upon plans for the general management and protection of some forests than upon others.

PRC §4658 admonishes CDF to refrain from adopting a management policy for Mountain Home State Forest that will relegate recreational use to a secondary role. This statute has a historical significance related to the creation of this particular state forest.

The problem of concentrated human use, especially during hunting and fishing seasons, must be considered. Accommodations for such use will be made at least to the extent necessary to protect the state forests from fire and for reasons of public health and safety.

Before large expenditures are made for recreational development, a recreational plan for the forest will be prepared by the forest manager and approved by the Director. This requirement is particularly important prior to making budget requests for site development. The plan should include an inventory of the sites that are available, their capacity, potential use, priority and phasing of development, and a general idea of the nature of development required. The recreation plan may be incorporated into the management plan upon approval by the Director.

From time to time, it has been necessary to act upon requests of persons and agencies desiring to have exclusive recreational use of state forestland. Such requests ordinarily should be referred to the Director with available facts and field recommendations before any commitments are made, since they most likely will involve some form of legal document.

Persons using state forestlands for recreation in accordance with law should be encouraged to do the following:

- Camp only at designated camping areas.
- Be especially careful in use of smoking tobacco and fire.
- Build no campfires except at designated camping areas unless authorized to do so by a valid State Forest Campfire and Special Use Permit.
- Comply with state forest regulations regarding use of state forests.
- Maintain a clean camp.
- Observe whatever regulations may be prescribed for visitors in the vicinity of a conservation camp.

CAMPFIRE AND SPECIAL USE PERMIT

5051.1

(May 1988)

State Forest Campfire and Special Use Permits (form RM-29) are issued for these reasons:

- To provide valuable fire prevention contact.
- To meet state forest regulations that require such a permit for camping at other than designated camping areas on state forests.

Permits will be issued only by forest manager or his/her designees to meet special needs of forest users (e.g., hunters, fishers, and others in outlying places) for camping or making a campfire in any place other than a designated camping area. Sites frequently used can be posted with Item 3-69 to inform the public that a Campfire and Special Use Permit is required to camp or make a campfire there.

CAMPING

5051.2

(May 1988)

Camping is restricted to designated camping areas and a permit is not needed for using such areas. Therefore, it is imperative that appropriate signs designate such areas. Item 2-69 is a paper sign that is printed and distributed for this purpose. These signs facing inward will post the exterior boundary of such areas. Designated areas also must be fireproofed to make them safe for public use, and maintained accordingly.

A sign, Item 1-69, available to post as needed, informs the public that camping is confined to designated camping areas.

Item 22-69, "Rules for the Use of State Forests," is a poster that briefly brings to the attention of forest users the more important regulations relative to the use of state forests. It should be posted each season on supported backboards in camping and picnic areas and other places in the forest where the public congregates.

RESIDENCE AND RECREATIONAL SITES

5051.3

(May 1988)

Any request by industry crews or other workers (either government or private) to occupy state forestland as a residence site or a private recreational development will be forwarded to the Director with a complete explanation of the situation and recommendations.

FORMS AND/OR FORMS SAMPLES: RETURN TO ISSUANCE HOME PAGE FOR FORMS/FORMS SAMPLES SITE LINK.

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